

CPC Committee Meeting Minutes
2/17/15
Rockport Police Station
7:00 PM

Members Present:

R. George, P. Crotty, B. Brosnan, B. Reed, J. McMahon, E. Hand, M. Michaels, M. Lash, and S. DeMarco.

Members Not Present: all present

Bill Elwell started off the meeting by presenting his application from the Congregational Church for their Steeple Restoration Project. It was noted that his application was done beautifully. The committee asked Bill questions about the project, and discussed various aspects of the restoration. He was asked to get two more bids, and to have the bids broken down.

Bill explained that he was also aggressively pursuing another avenue to restore the steeple. He is working with a company from Tennessee that can build an exact replica of the steeple in aluminum. The replica would be dropped on the existing steeple. Bill admitted that there is a lot of homework to be done, and many unknowns regarding this option. He explained that he was looking to the future, and thought an aluminum steeple would require a lot less maintenance and would last longer. He felt it would serve the community well because it would have the same visual appearance as the existing structure. He would not be asking for additional funding if they decide to go with this approach. The Committee asked if he had applied for funds elsewhere. He would like to present again in May when he has more information. The Committee wondered if this might be cutting it too close.

It was accepted by the Committee to defer the January minutes until March.

The next order of business was to decide whether or not to accept Thacher Island and Action's applications this year since they were both late.

Thacher Island's application was accepted because it was dated 12/9/14. It looks like it may have been misplaced somehow.

Action's application came in on 2/6/15, and the deadline was 2/3/15. It was originally due on 2/2/15 but the Town Hall was closed that day because of a snowstorm. They said they were late because they had a new person doing the application this year, and also because of the snow.

There was quite a discussion regarding this issue. The Committee agreed that they don't usually accept late applications, and they would like to keep that rule hard and fast. But because Action helps very needy individuals, the Committee was hesitant to refuse the application. They did not want the clients to suffer. Would it be setting a precedent?

Committee member made a motion to accept Action's late application on humanitarian grounds, and on grounds of unusual hardship to the clients. The motion was seconded. A discussion was then initiated by a Committee member. It was suggested that Action come in to meet with the Committee, and explain how their organization would be affected if their application was rejected. What other resources do they have? Committee member then tabled the first motion, and it was seconded until that time when Action can come in and meet with the Committee. The vote was a unanimous yes.

It was decided to schedule the discussion with Action at the next meeting on March 10. They will be first on the agenda, and the Committee will vote on it at the end of the meeting. The only other group to present at that meeting will be Millbrook Meadows because they have a big application.

The applications that will be heard on April 14 will be The Community House Painting Project, the Granite Pier Stairs, and Straitsmouth Island.

No update on the signs.

Committee Chairperson has ordered metal nameplates from Staples. They should be here by next month's meeting.

Superintendent Liebow presented his application for the restoration of the Outdoor Basketball Court. The committee asked questions, and discussed various aspects of the application with him.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer passed out the CPC Treasurer's Report to all committee members. Members asked questions and the report was discussed. Committee members thanked the Treasurer for a good job done on the report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Committee Chairperson brought up the bill for CPC coalition dues. It was agreed that paying the yearly dues of \$1,750 was well worth what the Committee gets in return. There was a motion to pay the dues, and it was seconded. The vote was a unanimous yes.

Committee member asked if a committee member is required to report to the committee if they have a chance meeting with someone in the community. It was suggested that if a community member has an opinion or question, they should come to a meeting.

Committee Chairperson is writing a letter to the newspaper, listing some of the Committee's projects, and suggesting that townspeople come to a CPC meeting. It would be an opportunity for them to see how the application process works, and get an idea of what kind of projects are approved. The Committee agreed this is a good idea.

The Committee welcomed the new Secretary.

Ed Hand announced he will be away for a month.

ADJOURNMENT:

Next meeting will be on 3/10/15. There was a motion to adjourn, and the motion was seconded.